TO THE

KINGS

MOST

Excellent Majesty,

AND TO THE

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

THE

LORDS

And others of Your Majesties most Honourable

Privy Councel.

An ESSAY for Recovery of TRADE.

Viz.

I. For Regulating the Manufactures of Wool.
II. Against the Corruptions Practised upon Tin and Lead.
III. For the Advancement of Fishing and Plantations.

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I. For Regulating the Manufactures of Wool

Most Excellent King, and Dread Soveraign.

AS Your Majesties Exemplary Piety and Goodness hath invited Your Industrious Subjects to attend and pursue their own Welfare, as well in Nursing their Domestick Trade, as in Propagating their Foraigne Traffick and Plantations: And as Your Majesties paternall Care is by all men, beheld in the Gracious Commissions You have been pleased to Delegate, and for this purpose to settle

in the Hands of knowing, and prudent Perſons, whoſe Worth and Honour, carries them above the Dirt and Avarice of Private Intereſts; So it encourageth ſuch as Study and Deſign to Enrich your Royal Poſſeſſions and legally to enlarge the Inheritance of your Juſt and Rightful Dominions, by ſetting Divine Impreſſions upon that Soile where Chriſtian Religion hath not formerly been named; And ſuch is this humble offering which ſupplicates Your Princely pardon for this Preſumption; Becauſe it intends the Encreaſe of your Royal Revenue, the Encouragement of your Manufacturers and Merchants, the happy Recovery of that Magnificence to Your Crown and Dignity, which the looſeneſs of late times hath left wounded amongſt *Turks* and *Infidels*, and finally the Redemption of that Honour which ſometimes Your Merchants moſt plentifully enjoyed in all Forraign Ports, where now they are cenſured and ſcorned, onely through the deceipt of their Merchandies and Manufactures miſguided chiefly in this your Kingdom of *England* for want of regulating them by your wholeſome Lawes for that purpoſe ordained.

2. To draw theſe Generals more near to your grave Contemplation and Judgement, Your Majeſty may be pleaſed, in the firſt place, to caſt your Eye upon the Wools of theſe your *Northern Dominions*, in Richneſs a Bleſſing beyond thoſe, wherewith the Patriarches of the *Primitive Times* inveſted their Poſterities, whoſe Benedictions have hitherto peopled, and governed the World, which great and even miraculous example, Your Majeſty and Your Royal Succeſſors may Happily and Bleſſedly follow in your Planting and Ruling the new diſcovered World; For the Wealth of your Wools is ſo far above appraiſement, as even the Manufactures thereof made, cannot, without difficulty, be comprehended. It is neither Flattery nor Hyperbole to affirm and demonſtrate to Your Majeſty, that they exceed the Revenues

nues of the *Spaniſh Monarch*, though with his Chriſtian Dominions he joine the Wealth of both His *Indies*: For Juſtification whereof, there needs no more preſident, then the numberleſs People of Your Kingdomes, who are, or may all of them be, entertained and employed with a thriving livelihood from the innocent Sheep, who carries a Bleſſing with him where ere he goes.

III. It is too Late and Helpleſs to look back upon the improvident tranſportation of *Engliſh* Sheep into *Spain*, where the Feeding and Climate have ſo improved their *VVools*, as no part of the World produceth the like, for fineneſs: Nevertheleſs, theſe your Kingdoms are not thereby quite robbed of their Birth-right; for, as the rarity of that Commodity is confined within the narrow precinct of *Segovia*, ſo the Merchandies therefrom ariſing, are ſmall, and no way in compariſon with Your Subjects Manufactures, which are by heaven calculated plentifully and neceſſarily to ſerve the people of all Climates, which in their Bartering and Returnes, do fill theſe your Dominions with all ſorts of Merchandies, and Wealth, Rarities and Riches which the World affords, whereby your Cuſtoms and Impoſts abound.

IV. It is therefore (with all Humility be it ſpoken) a Happy and Worthy part of Your Majeſties Kingly Office, ſo to regulate the Affaires which are under Tuition of Your Laws, as all Men may thereby (with beſt conveniency) be holden to that Honeſty and Equity which each man expects; for want whereof, the Manufactures of *Wool* are great Complainants, even from the backs of the Sheep, to the backs of the Men, who wear them as followeth.

V. The *Wool-winders* (for whoſe ſtricter Obligation, an Oath is enjoyned (though ſeldom or never taken) for the Lawful Practices which their Trade requires: the particulars whereof are ſpecified in the body of the ſaid Statute;) do nevertheleſs practiſe without Licence or Oath; and with the Fleeces they Wind up Filth, Dung, Pitch-

marks, &c. Which are literally forbidden by the Law; likewiſe, they put into the Body of the *Fleeces*, *Flocks* and *Scabby-wools*, all which do prove to be great damage both to the *Cloath* and the *Cloathiers*, and yet are familiarly practiced by the more *Corrupt* and *Worthleſs Cloathiers*, eſpecially in late years, wherein Liberty without Law is Experimentally found to enſlave the People, as Your ever Bleſſed Father foretold them, even with His laſt Breath; The Laws provided, and hereby offended, are 8 H. 6. c. 22. 23 H. 8. c. 17. 13 Eliz. c. 25.

VI. The next to theſe are a ſort of People, who call themſelves *Broggers*, *Jobbers*, *Wool-drivers*, *Staple-wool Buyers*, *Combſters*, *Market-ſpinſters*, &c. Of whom the Laws take none, or very little cogniſance. Theſe fore-ſtall the Markets, and engroſs the *Wools*, which being privately ſeparated, the beſt are prepared and preſerved for Tranſportation, contrary to the moſt ſtrict Laws, (ſome of which have made ſuch Tranſportation to be Felony:) nevertheleſs, theſe make a common practice of tranſporting *Wools*, *Wool-fells*, *Yarn* and *Fullers-earth*; thereby bringing a great prejudice to the *Cloathier*, and no ſmall Detriment to Your Majeſties Cuſtoms, whereof they pay none; By which meanes they furniſh Forraign Nations, to the oppreſſion of *Engliſh Cloathing*, (thoſe Countries ſelling their Manufactures made of *Engliſh Wools* at Cheaper rates then the *Engliſh Merchants* can afford them.) Theſe *Broggers*, &c. are a ſort of People totally Ungoverned, the Laws know them not; They ſerve no Apprentiſhips, nor Teach any lawfull Trade; They are of all Vocations, as *Innkeepers*, *Carriers*, *Glovers*, *Fel-mongers*, &c. Who, though they deal with moſt People, yet are they under no Regulation, either of *Publique Laws*, or *Private Orders*: If any thing within theſe Mens *Profeſſion*, will bear the name of a *Trade*, it were requiſite ſuch *Trade* or *Perſons* ſhould be regulated. In ſhort, theſe are the

People

People, who (together with ſuch armed *Aſſiſtants* as they can get) do carry their *Wools*, &c. to places upon the *Coaſts* which lie out of *Command*, and without *Forts*, *Harbours* or *Inhabitants*; where, in full reſiſtance of all *Oppoſers*, they *Ship* them away, though with *Wounding*, and ſometimes *Killing*, ſuch as by *Order* of *Law*, endeavour to reſtrain their *Evil Practices*. The *Statutes* in which Caſe enacted, are, 11 Ed. 3. c. 1. 27 Ed. 3. c. 13, 15, 17. 28 Ed. 3. c. 13. 31 Ed. 3. c. 2. 14 R. 2. c. 5. 3 H. 5. c. 6. 8 H. 5. c. 2. 2 H. 6. c. 2. 8 H. 6. c. 17. Yea, even that *Late Parliament* which practiced and effected the *Ruine* of *King* and *People*, even they, on the 19th. of *Jan.* 1647. ordained a Relief againſt *Tranſporting Wools*.

VII. The *Weavers* who are comprized under divers *Statutes* come next in courſe to be ſurveyed: Theſe men make continual offences upon their *Cloathing*, and the rather, becauſe the precedent Complaint of *Engroſers* and *Tranſporters* ſhews what wrongs are daily put upon the *Weavers*, their *Materials* proving imperfect, being in a manner the Refuſe of thoſe which are *Tranſported*, whoſe deficiencies the *Weavers* muſt neceſſarily ſhew upon their *Works*; Theſe *Weavers* ſeldom take *Apprentices*, as the Law enjoines, to accompliſh ſeven years ſervice, but they take Servants by Covenant for a year, or leſſe time, by which ſhortneſs of Service two great Evils ariſe to the *Cloathing*: One, that for want of Experience, ſuch *Weavers* muſt neceſſarily make defective *VVorks*, which ever underſells the better-made-*Cloathing*. Secondly, this expeditious way of making *VVeavers*, ſo multiplyes and overchargeth the *Trade*, as the *VVorkmen* cannot live one by another. With theſe, are comprized, ſuch as are called *Mill-men*, *Fullers*, *Tuckers*, and *VVulkers*; for the better regulating of whom, are ordained theſe following Statutes. 6 H. 8. c. 9. 26 H. 8. c. 16. 27 H. 8. c. 12. 3 & 4 P. & M. c. 11. 4 & 5 P. & M. c. 5. 35 Eliz. c. 10. 4 Jac. c. 2. 7 Jac. c. 7.

 VIII. The

VIII. The offences committed by the *Cloath-workers*, are many, and of *important Conſideration*; that is to ſay, in ſtreyning, where *Tenters* are totally forbidden; by half *Milling*, and *Stopping* with *Flocks*, beſides many other faults (if throughly examined) ſcarcely to be believed: Again, the *VVater-ſeale*, which is affixed, to deliver the true aſſize of the *Cloath*, is, for the moſt part loſt, whereby the *Merchant* and *Cloathier* fall to great difference, whereas all the *Seals*, which the Laws enjoin to be put upon every piece, according to the Nature and Capacity of the *VVork*, are to be kept upon the *Cloath* or *Stuff* to the laſt Remnant, as will be found in theſe following Statutes: 4 Ed. 4. c. 1. 5 Ed. 6. c. 6. 39 Eliz. c. 20. 43 Eliz. c. 10.

IX. The Tranſgreſſions of the *Dyer* are not of the leaſt concernment; for, as an Evil or falſe Colour deſtroyes the Eſtimation of a good *Cloath*, ſo divers times a good well-grounded and perfect *Colour* doth much advantage a weak *Cloath*; And the Laws herein have been very Vigilant to prevent the importation of ſuch Foraign *Commodities* as do *Adulterate Colours*, *viz.* *Block-wood*, *Log-wood*, and the falſifying of *Madder*, as alſo the *Maddering* of *Blacks* before they be *woaded*: Amongſt which offences may be put the *Kalendring* of *Stuffs*, which is ſtrictly forbidden. The Statutes for theſe things are in 25 H. 8. c. 5. 3 Ed. 6. c. 2. 23 Eliz. c. 9. 39 Eliz. c. 11.

X. *Preſſors* and *Packers* are become great and continual *Offendors* againſt the perfection of *Cloathing*; for hot *Preſſes* totally forbidden in 5 Ed. 6. c. 6. are in daily uſe, and abuſe, becauſe they cover, and conceale the falſe making of *Draperies*, both *New* and *Old*. *Folding* and *Tacking* of *Cloaths*, before they be viewed, is forbidden. 3 R. 2. c. 2. 13 R. 2. c. 11. and 11 H. 4. c. 6. And for the *Packers*, they have in late yeares found ſuch a Practice, as no Law hath, by name, taken into regard: For, they pack up *VVools*; and combed *VVools*, fine

fine ſpun into *Yarn*, in *Bailes* as *Cloath*, and ſo enter them in the *Cuſtom-Houſes* as *Cloath*; They are packed alſo into *Casks*, and other *Carriages*, like *Liquid Merchandies*, which are *New Inventions*, and beyond the *foreſight* of *former times*, more than that in generall in thoſe ſo many prudent *Proviſions* againſt *Tranſporting* of *Wools*, *Wool-fells*, *Yarne*, and *Fullers-earth*. 11 Ed. 3. c. 1. 27 Ed. 3. c. 3, 12, 15. 8 H. 6. c. 23. 18 H. 6. c. 15. 12 Ed. 4. c. 5. &c.

XI. There are, or ſhould be (in all places where *Cloathing* is made) 3. *Officers* in *Principall Charge*, to ſee that ſuch *Cloaths* be made according to the *Laws* in their reſpective *Conditions* provided, and they are the *Searchers*, the *Meaſurers*, and the *Collector* of the *Subſidy*, (who is now *commonly*, but *corruptly*, called the *Aulnager*:) The two firſt of theſe *Officers* are of the ſame *Antiquity* with *Cloathing*, even when *Engliſh wools* were wrought in *Foraign Parts*; but the *Collectors* of the *Subſidy* is no Older then the *Subſidy*, which was eſtabliſhed when *Cloathing* was *confined* to be made in *England*; at which time the *Wools* were reſtrained from *Tranſportation*.

XII. The charge of true making *Cloaths*, and finiſhing them, reſts upon the *Truſt* of the *Searcher* and *Meaſurer*, which *Truſt*, in theſe dayes, is very weakly diſcharged, even where there are any ſuch Officers, (for generally there are none) and the *Reaſons* thereof are, for that in *Corporations* (whereunto *Cloathing* was for a long time *confined* to be made) theſe *Officers* being left to the *choice* and *ſwearing* of the *Mayors* then being; ſuch *Mayors* have for many yeares been *Cloathiers* themſelves, and therefore have either neglected the *ſwearing* ſuch *Officers*, or elſe have given ſuch places to *Servants* and *Creatures* of their own, who being content with their *Sallary*, have utterly neglected their *Duty*, either for *Fear*, or *Friendſhip*, of their *Maſter* the *Magiſtrate*, and his *Friends*, who in requital holds in ſuch an *Officer* as

long as he pleaſeth, whereas by the Law ſuch *Officers* ought to be changed yearly, and to be under *Securities* as well as his *Oath*; But in *Villages*, and out of *Corporations*, there are no ſuch *Officers* eſtabliſhed, becauſe no body takes upon him to preſent fit Perſons (qualified to thoſe *Services*) to the *Juſtices* of *Peace*, who are by the *Law* appointed to *Adminiſter* the *Oath*, nor are any ſuch Perſons forward to ſeek the *Imployment*, becauſe the *Sallary* is very ſmall, and the *work* lies ſcattering and diſperſed, and will not acquite his *paines* and *charge*, who ſhall undertake the ſame, whereto he muſt be bound juſtly to diſcharge it, as well for his *Oath*, as becauſe the *Law* enjoines *Collateral ſecurity*.

XIII. The neglect of theſe Duties is not only a great cauſe of decay to the *Cloathing*, but, here from likewiſe, do ariſe great *Dammages* to *Your MAJESTIES Revenues*; For the *Lawes* having provided *Penalties* upon all *defective Cloaths*, and allotted a *Moyety* of thoſe *Penalties* to *Your MAJESTY* (which ought to appear by the *Seales* of the *Searchers*, and *Meaſurers*, and thoſe *Seales* to remain to the laſt Remnant as hath before been ſaid) the ſaid *Moyety* is totally loſt to *Your MAJESTY*, becauſe the *Puniſhments* allotted by the *Statutes* are not inflicted by thoſe *Officers* as the *Law* enjoines.

XIV. Nor are theſe *Complaints* of *Yeſterday*, or *confined* within one Age; for when the *All-wiſe Providence of Almighty God* had *fore-decreed* a *matchleſs happineſs*, and *bleſſing* to theſe *Kingdomes*, and accompliſhed the ſame by the *glorious inauguration* of that *Pious* and *Prudent Prince of Peace*, *Your Royal Grand-father* King JAMES; Even then the Cryes of the *Cloathiers Merchants* and *Drapers* were ſtretched out againſt the abuſes before recited, and eſpecially theſe of *ſearch* and *meaſure*. So that in the 4th. year of His Majeſties Reign, there was a very *comprehenſive* Statute Enacted for *Reformation* of all *Abuſes* then practiced in and about *Cloathing*, wherein,

in, at the Humble Requeſt of the *Merchants*, and *Drapers*, a Clauſe was incerted, That in caſe the ſaid *Searchers* and *Meaſurers* ſhould prove negligent in diſcharge of their Duty, and the *Cloathing* ſhould continue to be imperfect and defective, that then the *Merchants* and *Drapers* ſhould have the examination and puniſhment of ſuch abuſive *Cloaths* in their own power.

XV. Yet that Statute doth not allot the aforeſaid *Penalties* to the *Merchant and Draper*, who notwithſtanding (that is to ſay, the *Drapers* eſpecially) do by private Contracts in their own *Shops*, Accuſe, Arraign and Condemn the poor *Cloathiers Manufactures* to what *Penalties* themſelves think fit; which ſentences they Execute with a kind of *Tyranny*: For when they have divers weekes had ſuch *Cloaths* in their hands before they have pronounced their fatall Sentence upon them (having ſometimes politiquely kept a *Cloath* beyond the ſale of his *Colour*, for the more Commodious utterance of their own of the ſame *Colour*) then they abate as they pleaſe, or elſe return ſuch a *Cloath* upon the *Cloathier*, to his utter undoing, if he be poor, which is familiar. And moreover, if they do take a *Cloath* upon price, it is, for the moſt part, under ſuch puniſhment to the *Cloathier*, as his gains, and more, are defalked: Nevertheleſſe, there is no man reſponſive for Your MAJESTIES Moyety, nor to inform the ſecond Buyer or Retayler, is there any Seal to denote the defects (as the Statute enjoins;) but the *Draper*, who before had too rigorouſly puniſhed the *Cloathier*, takes advantage alſo of the ſubſequent Chapmen.

XVI. As for the Merchants, they cry out their Complaints upon the defects of falſe-made *Cloaths*; for they beſpeake their *cloaths* for a Voyage, to which they are at a certain time bound; and for the ſupply of their Factory, are forced to accept of ſuch *cloaths* as are brought to them, with a moderate abatement, as not being able to waite the making of other; but it often falleth out, that

ſuch are the deficiencies of their *cloaths*, as cauſeth them to be returned from their Factors, which proves an irreparable dammage both to the Merchant & Cloathier; together with a diſgrace to the whole Cloathing of this Your MAJESTIES Kingdome. Nor was there any Merchant ever heard of, that hath at any time made any account to Your MAJESTY for the Moyety of thoſe *Penalties* which he alſo layes upon the Cloath he buyes: ſo as for want of a due and legal Search and Meaſure, a true Eſtimation of Your MAJESTIES, and Your SUBJECTS Loſſes can hardly be Computed.

XVII. Theſe, and many more grievances, and miſchiefes do dayly ariſe, as well to the Merchants, to the Retaylers, and to the Manufacturers, as to Your MAJESTY in ſeveral Capacities: Inſomuch, as it would rudely diſturb Your Royal Patience onely to admit the Hearing of ſuch Juſt Complaints, as are uttered with the Griefes and Groanes of Your good People who are therein concerned. Thoſe which have been rehearſed, relate onely to the defects which are occaſioned for want of a due Search and Puniſhment rightly to be placed; The Offences, through neglect of legal Meaſuring, follow.

XVIII. It hath been ſhewed how the Laws have carefully provided, that the Search and Meaſure duely performed, might in all times have cured the Maladies of the Cloathing, what hath been diſcovered from the neglect of the legall Search, hath given ſome evidence that the want thereof hath baned the Engliſh Cloathing; the like examination of the Meaſurers negligence, will demonſtrate how needfull a ſpeedy Reformation therein, will appear.

XIX. The Law hath aſſigned two meaſurings to every Cloath: That is to ſay, Wet and Dry, and Seals for both of them; The wet Meaſure is to ſhew the juſt length and breadth of every Cloath, without ſtretching,

or

or other help of Tenters; the uſe of which engines are very tenderly allowed, and onely for Evening out of a fine *Cloath*; as for courſe *Cloathes*, Northern Douzens, and the like, there ought to be no Tenters ſuffered to ſtand in thoſe Counties where ſuch *Cloathes* are made: Nevertheleſs, in all ſuch places Tenters are as common as *Cloathing*, which alſo are uſed with very Evil Conſcience. Inſomuch, as where a *Cloath* is permitted to be Stretched not above half a Yard, or at the moſt a Yard in Length, and half a Quarter in Breadth; ſuch a *Cloath* hath been known to be ſtrained a quarter and half in Breadth, and 5, 6, 7, 8. yea, ſometimes Ten yards in Length: By which Over-ſtraining, the Threds in the very Body of the *Cloath*, have been *crackt* and *broken*; and is nevertheleſs, by Flocks fine Shorne, by Oat-meal, Seamings, and other Corrupt *Sophiſticati-ons*, made to feel *ſmooth*, and *full* in Hand, as farre as they will be pleaſed to allow the Aſſay, which is onely upon a ſhort diſtance of the Forel or End left a little way at liberty for that purpoſe, whilſt the *whole cloath* elſe throughout is Baſe, and Rotten.

XX. Theſe Frauds and Deceptions would be found in the Dry Meaſure; but there is in theſe dayes, few or no Officers to attend that Duty where *Cloathing* is made, for the Reaſons before mentioned: Nor do ſuch *Cloaths* as theſe appear in any Market, (for they dare not be ſeen without a Meaſure-Seal) but are ſold up and down in the Country, to the great Abuſe of Your more ignorant and innocent Subjects, or amongſt unworthy Merchants, who regard not their Own, or Countries Credit; inſomuch, as ſometimes ſuch *cheating cloaths* have been Hanged up in Halls and Streets in *Holland*, to the great Diſhonour of this Your MAJESTIES Kingdom; which Diſgraces had been prevented, had Your Lawes been duly Executed. As for the Finer ſort of *Cloathing*, ſuch as are made in Villages, and muſt come to the *London* Market, where they dare not appear without a Meaſure-Seal;

ſuch *Cloaths* are brought to the *London*-Sworn (peradventure often For-ſworn) Meaſurer, where the poor *Cloathiers* again are Pinched: For the abundance of *Cloathing*, which comes to that ſingle Office, cauſeth each *Cloath* to lie long before it can be meaſured; within which time, ſome men of *cunning* have cut large Portions out of a *whole Piece*, and again have drawn the *Cloath* together with ſuch Curioſity, as the Owner himſelf could not diſcern it: More then that, he miſſed of his Length, in his own account, but, having no Witneſſe, he is Over-born, and Over-ſworn, (as he might as well be out of his own Name) which is all the ſatisfaction he can get.

XXI. In theſe Conſiderations, the *Cloathier* rather proſtrates his *Manufactures* to the mercy (ſuch as it is) of the Merchant and Draper. To the Merchant he delivers his *Manufactures* by Scores, or Douzens, (that is to ſay, the Courſer ſort of *Cloaths*) which are privately delivered into Ware-houſes, whereby Your MAJESTIES Aulnager is totally Defeated of Your Subſidy; as alſo he hath oftentimes been, when a *Cloath* is made to a *treble length*, and after is cut into *two cloathes onely*, wherein Your *Aulnager* is *cheated* of a *third part*. For *prevention whereof*, there are diverſe Statutes yet in *force*, which give the ſcantlings of *length*, between 28 and 26 Yards, or *thereabouts*; of *weight*, between 56 and 60 Pounds; and in *breadth*, according to the quality of the *Manufacture*, be it *Cloath-broad*, or *Spaniſh*; or be it *Kerſie*, *Searg*, *Say*, or *Perpetuano*; or be it *Bayes*, ſingle or double, and more or leſſe in *proportion* to the *Manufacture*. Nor is the *Weight* leſſe abuſed, than the *Breadth* or *Length*; for *defect whereof*, Horſe-ſhoos, and *other* Iron; *weights* of Lead, yea, Stones and Brick-bats have been ſlipperily conveyed into the folds of the *Cloath* in *weighing*.

XXII. Your Moſt Excellent MAJESTY hath *hitherto* beheld onely a *glimmering*, or obſcured *light* of the

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Oppreſſions which reſt upon *Cloathing* here in *England*, which ſerves all the *civill parts* of the *World* for their *Arayment*; what Value Your Cuſtomes *therefrom* ariſing muſt bear, is rather to be Admired than Numbred; as alſo the decay thereof, in late years, is more to be condoled, than ſuddenly to be Recovered. Nevertheleſſe, (under Your moſt Gracious Pardon) ſome obvious and opportune *Remedies* may be tendred to the grave and judicious Conſideration of Your MAJESTY, and theſe Your moſt Honourable and Wiſe Councellors, for the better Accommodating and Repairing the related Grievances in Times to come, whereby the Foraign and Domeſtick Trade may happily *gather breath*, Your MAJESTIES Revenue ſo *long*, and ſo *much* Violated and Plundred, may be Redeemed, and *hereafter* preſerved; Your *Merchants* will be encouraged at Home, and honoured Abroad (as formerly *they have been*) amongſt Your Allies and Friends; and all Your Good Subjects, who live by the Ineſtimable Encreaſe of *their Sheep*, (which are in a manner all Your People) will more Rejoyce under their Oaks and Elmes, than they that have Wine and Oyl, ſhall do under their Vines and Olive Branches.

XXIII. The Introduction to the following Remedies, muſt yet *further* Beg your Royal Patience and Pardon, if it begin with a New Complaint, which ariſieth from the deplorable, yet dayly, and continuall Exportation of Wools, Wool-fells, Yarn, and Fullers-Earth. There hath already been ſome *Touch of this*, but farre *too ſhort* to reach the Miſeries whereunder *England* Groanes by that Preſumptuous Offence, (for it is Acted with a *High Hand*) the Practicers not ſparing the Limbs or Lives of ſuch your Loyall Subjects as endeavour, by due Courſes, to ſuppreſſe ſuch unnatural *Breaches* of Your Lawes; but, *Auri ſacra fames quid non?* There are Agents *without number* (becauſe *without diſcovery*) who remain in this *Your Royal City*,

and lie ſcattered all along the *Sea-coaſts* of theſe *Your Kingdomes*; whoſe whole Employment is in Corrupting *Your Subjects*, to enrich other Nations, by the ruines of their Own. To whom Rewards are not wanting, for they are allowed 40. *per cent.* clear gift, over and beſides all petty Charges of Cuſtomes, (whereof they pay none) Fraight, Wharfage, Portrage, &c. For what Quantities ſoever they deliver in *Holland*, *France*, *Venice*, *&c.* which is become a Trade ſo Currant, as it induceth many men to leave their Honeſt Vocations, and betake themſelves to this Unnaturall, and Ungodly courſe of Life. The Proviſions for Prevention of theſe, have been prudently Ordained, but Wicked men have found Inventions to defeat them.

XXIV. For Preſident, *All Your* MAJESTIES *Cuſtom-houſes*, and their Officers upon the *Sea-Coaſts*, are enjoyned to take Bonds of ſuch Maſters of Veſſels, as take Charge by way of Traffick, and are Bound to Sea, which are called Port-Bonds, and whereof they ought to make annual Returns into *Your Court of Exchequer* if any Covenant amongſt them be Violated; and it is probable they do ſo; but the way of avoiding the Penalties is Contrived amongſt ſuch Maſters: For one man will enter into Bond, and another, who is not Bound, will take Charge of the Voyage. The firſt man diſchargeth himſelf, pretending he met with other, and Better Preferment, which, for his own ſake, he was bound to Embrace: and for the Perſon in Charge of the Voyage, (though his Conſcience tells him he commits a foul, and undutiful Offence againſt his KING, Country, and Neighbour) yet he, not being Bound, is therefore not Reſponſible. Nevertheleſſe, ſome poor inconſiderate Perſons will peradventure Engage, and break all Bonds, who, when they are Purſued, and Apprehended, have Principalls, who will Support them in Priſon, even through the Proſecution of the Lawes, wherein they are never without the help of Crafty,

and

and Diſhoneſt *Clarks*, who (well knowing that the *Proſecutor* for your MAJESTY, brings them no *Benefit*) do ſide with the *Offendor* and his *Supporters*, whom, though they cannot *Juſtifie*, yet will they find out ſuch *Subtile Litteral Expreſſions* in the *Statute*, as will ſometimes *Menace*, and more often diſcourage an *honeſt and agrieved Proſecutor*; And finally, when no *Clark-like Tricks* will prevail, but the *Offendor* is in *Cuſtody*, and under Execution of the *Law*, then his *Poverty* becomes his unfailable *Friend*, and a *Petition* to the *Judge* of the *Court*, filled with *Lamentations* of a *Wife*, and many poor *Children*, all ready to *Starve*, moves the Piety of the *Judge*, who grants the *Priſoner Liberty* (for other *Corporal Puniſhment* is not by the *Law* enjoyned) and he, who hath made many others *Beggars*, (for preſerving a few of his own) is let looſe, being by this time more *cunning* to follow the ſame *Trade*.

XXV. Again, the *Law* is ſomewhat *Strict* in prohibiting any ſeiſure of ſuch *Exportations*, till they be *Water-Born*, wherein the *Letter* of the *Law* kills the *Proſecution*, though the *Circumſtances* give plain *appearance*, that ſuch prohibited goods muſt to *Sea*, and to *Forraign Parts*, ſo ſoon as they are gotten ſafe aboard; yet here can be no Seiſure (even at the edge of the *Sea*, and the *Waggon* in the *Water*, with a *Boat* lying by) without undergoing preſent *Arreſts*, and tedious *Suits* in *Law*, mannaged by pulique *Purſes*, againſt whom no private or ſingle perſon can *Contend*: And as they bring ſuch *prohibited Commodities*, to places upon the *Coaſt*, quite out of Command or Ability to be *Reſcued*, ſo again they *Ship* them in the dead time of the *Night*, as well as for the ſafer concealing their *Aſſiſtants*, as alſo at ſuch an hour as no *Witneſs* can diſtinctly *Swear*, whether it belong to the precedent or enſuing day. In which caſe, ſome *Gentlemen* upon the *Coaſt* of *Suſſex*, have not long before Your MAJESTIES

Bleſſed Return, undergone Great and Chargeable *Vexations*.

XXVI. Though the miſchiefs of ſuch *Tranſportations* need not be again *Repeated*, yet ſo prejudiciall hath this *Matter*, within theſe few paſt years proved, as it is verily Believed, that in theſe times one half of the *Wools* in *England*, and more of the *Wools* in *Ireland* and *Scotland* are conſtantly *Tranſported*: Inſomuch, as in the latter part of the late looſe times, there came, as it were by *Combination*, about 300. *Weavers* out of the *Weſt Country*; who, for want of *Work*, and *Materialls* in their *Trade*, were *Shipped* away to *Dunkirk*, under the Condition of *Souldiers*: from whence, within a few dayes after their *Arrival*, they were all gone to *France* or *Holland*, and the parts thereto *Adjacent*, whether it is ſuppoſed their *Materialls* went before them: which Preſident is of no ſmall *Importance* and *Conſideration*, if it ſhould take an *Exemplary Effect*.

XXVII. If to theſe Inconveniencies the *Manufactures* and *Merchandies* to be made of the *Tranſported Commodities*, be added and Rightly Weighed, the ſpeedy Ruines of the *Engliſh Cloathing*, will be evident to an eaſy *Judgement*: For in the firſt place, The *Dutch* and *French* do underſell the *Engliſh*, by Reaſon of their Cheapneſſe in Working; their Food alſo is leſſe, Courſer, and Cheaper than the *Engliſh* do require. Secondly, in 24 hours the ſaid *Foraigners* will work 16. at the leaſt, and the *Engliſh* ſcarce 12. Thirdly, in *Tranſporting* their *Merchandies* to their *Foraign Factories*, they go leſſe in *Fraight*, in *Seamen*, in *Victual*, and in *Wages*. But above all other their *Providences*, *wonderful* and *unpartial* is the *Viſitation* of their *Cloathing* by their *Cure-maſters*; inſomuch as no *ſlight* or *prejudicial Work* eſcapes *Tearing* at leaſt, as ſhall be ſpeedily ſeen in the *forme* of *Regulating* their *Draperies*. Theſe *advantages*, and having the choice

of

of *Engliſh Wools* (together with the moſt *unjuſt* and *unconſcionable utterance* of their *fine Cloathes* in Your *London Streets* and *Markets*) are no leſſe *diſcouragements* to *Your* MAJESTIES *good Subjects*, than the *ſtoring* of *Your North-Sea-fiſhing* with *Buſſes* would be to the *Dutch*, whereof ſome *material Arguments* will hereafter be *promoted*.

XXVIII. For the *better*, more *eaſy* and *ſpeedy prevention* of the *preſent actings*, and *worſe threatnings* of the *above-recited prevailing*, and *clamorous Evils*; It is (with all *Humility*) preſented to the *grave judgement* of Your moſt Excellent MAJESTY, and Your moſt *Honourable Conncellours*, that a more ſtrict *reſtraint* of *Wools*, *Wool-fels*, *Yarn*, and *Fullers-earth*, may be diligently attended for time to come; That there may be a *boundary* or *limited diſtance* around the *Coaſts* of all *Your Kingdomes* (peradventure of five Miles) without which, no *prohibited Commodities* may paſſe towards the *Sea*; and in caſe any *Towns* or *Villages* between the ſaid *Boundaries* and the *Sea*, have *Occupation* of any ſuch *Goods*, that from ſome *place* of *eminence* upon the ſaid *limits*, ſuch ſtores for *Employment* of *Your Subjects* there living, may be delivered to them by Indenture, under a *pænalty*, in caſe of *Tranſporting*, or otherwiſe *Embezelling* the ſame to the *prejudice* of Your MAJESTY, and *Your Good People*. That ſuch *Goods* as require *Tranſportation* from *Port* to *Port*, (which is the continuall colourable allegation for *conveying away prohibited Commodities*) may be carryed by *Veſſels*, eſpecially *licenced* to that *ſervice* onely. That the quantity of *Goods*, for uſe of ſuch a *place*, may firſt be thence certified to the *Magiſtrate* in that *Port* whence they are to be moſt *conveniently Shipped*, and that ſuch *Magiſtrates* be *ſtrictly commanded* to *look* after ſuch *licenced Veſſel*, that *She* carry no more of that *prohibited Commodity* than ſhall be *licenced*. That no *combed wools* may paſſe from *place* to *place*, even within the ſaid *licence*, becauſe *great*

quantities of ſuch *combed wools* may (as hath been ſhewed) be preſſed into narrow Rooms; but that every place may work their own *wools* to their occaſions, even from the *Fleece*, which alſo will *employ* many *poor People* in thoſe *places*. That there may be often *Searches* for *combed wools*, in places that may be ſuſpected to work for *Tranſportation*; and being before the *Magiſtrate*, diſcovered to be for ſuch uſe, may be ſeiſed. That no *Fullers-earth* be ſold, or delivered from any *Grower* of the ſame; but ſuch quantities onely as ſhall be certified to ſuch Officer, as in the next *Port*, ſhall be enjoyned to take the ſame, to the end, that the *quantity* and *place* whether it is deſigned, may be found anſwerable to the uſe; and that this reſtriction be eſtabliſhed for 7. years continuance in all Your MAJESTIES Kingdomes. Within which time, it is to be hoped, the Honour of Your *Cloathing*, *Trade*, and *Merchandies*, may be recovered to theſe Your Dominions, and become a great *comfort* to all Your MAJESTIES *Subjects*.

XXIX. Secondly, that the *looſe* and *licentious* making of *Cloaths* at each mans pleaſure, (though never ſo weak in the Work) may be confined (as in other *Trades* it is) to *Apprentiſhips*; and that *Interlopers*, who Marry *Cloathiers Widdowes*, or otherwiſe bequeath themſelves to making of *Cloath*, may be ſuppreſſed: and that none be admitted to hold that *Trade*, untill he have made a *Proof-piece*, which alſo ſhall be examined, and allowed by two, or more able Workmen. And that all *Trades*, relating to the making and finiſhing of *Cloaths*, may do the ſame; that *Fees* be allowed for the *Binding*, *Enrowling*, and *Enfranchiſing* of *Apprentices*, in all the *Trades* relating to *Cloathing*; that ſome wholeſome Rules to that purpoſe, may be duly *obſerved*, and the Tranſgreſſions therefrom be ſtrictly *Puniſhed*, untill the *Trade* be in ſome meaſure Recovered.

XXX. Thirdly

XXX. Thirdly, That the whole body of Cloathing throughout *England* and *Ireland*, may be brought under one Uniform Regulation and Government by incorporating the ſame (onely as to Government) and that Halls may be eſtabliſhed throughout Your Kingdomes of *England* and *Ireland*, as well for regulating the Work-men, by way of Apprentiſhips for ſeven years, as to keep out other Interlopers, by whom the ſaid Trade is vitiated and corrupted. And moreover, that the ſaid Halls may be placed near to thoſe Waters, where the Manufactures ſhall be Scoured, Milled, and Fulled; to the end, the Searchers and Meaſurers may the more duely diſcharge that Truſt, which lyes upon their Offices, that ſo the Cloathier may be leſſe troubled in bringing his Cloathes to the Teſt; As alſo that Your MAJESTIES Revenue ariſing from the Penalties may the more eaſily and ſafely be collected. That the Searchers and Meaſurers, diſcharging that Oath and Truſt, to which their Sureties alſo muſt oblige them, the Cloathiers may be no more troubled by the Merchants and Drapers, but that they may at once make a finall bargain with their Chap-men; and in caſe at any time a Cloath ſhall be accuſed (and peradventure juſtly) to be defective, that for conſcientious judicature thereof, a Commiſſion of Survey may alwayes be reſiding in ſome eminent place of LONDON, near the Market, to judge without partiality, between the Chap-mans Complaint, and the Cloathiers Merit.

XXXI. Fourthly, Becauſe divers, and even all the new Draperies of this Kingdome are made contrary to the injunction of the Lawes, and have never as yet (by Parliaments) been regulated to any certain Aſſize in Length, Breadth, or Weight; and yet may not be ſuppreſt, becauſe they are the greateſt part of the *Cloathing*; which alſo not being comprized within the Laws for regulation, are therefore not under the Penalties, unleſs by way of ſuppreſſion, which will prove

very prejudiciall as well to the *Cloathiers* as to other Your Good People; It may therefore ſeem equal, and commodious between Your MAJESTY and Your *Cloathiers*, that from amongſt the Counties, Townes, and Villages, where ſuch new Draperies ſhall be made a number convenient of the moſt able and beſt reputed *Cloathiers*, may be Authorized to convene, and contrive ſuch accommodations for regulating the new Draperies, as may bring them likewiſe under ſuch Penalties as may in all future times hold them to an eſtabliſhment, moſt equal between Your MAJESTY and Your People, of what condition ſoever; and that ſuch orders for the new Draperies, being fully agreed upon by the ſaid *Cloathiers*, and being adjudged by Your MAJESTY, and theſe Your moſt Honourable Councellours, to be of a Competent Adjuſtment for Your MAJESTY, and Your Subjects benefit, they may in opportune time, be recommended to the Wiſdom of *Your* Parliament, to Eſtabliſh the ſame under a Law; That ſo the Draperies may no longer hault between two quarrelling Names of Old and New, but may all of them be comprized under one Uniform Title and Government.

XXXII. Fiftly, That for Maintenance of the ſaid Halls, and your Officers there attending, ſuch Fees as ſhall be allowed, for Binding, Enrolling, and Enfranchiſing of Apprentices, may be allotted to the ſaid Halls, together with the Fees which already are by your Laws eſtabliſhed, for Meaſuring and Searching, becauſe it is intended the Cloathing ſhall be Lawfully Searched and Meaſured at the ſaid Halls, by the Officers there; and becauſe the diſcharge of thoſe Duties, doth reſt upon ſuch ſlender Rewards, as all the Calamites before mentioned, have grown upon the Cloathing by neglect of the Duties, and that neglect is occaſioned for want of competent Maintenance to the Officers, for effecting the ſame. It may happily appear equal to Your MAJESTY, that an Additional Salary may be allowed

out

out of the Forfeitures which ſhall Accrew to Your MAJESTY, for a further Encouragement to ſuch Officers.

XXXIII. Sixthly, That to the end the Cloathier may really and indeed, find himſelf delivered from the Drapers and others Oppreſſions, it may happily ſeem Expedient, that the Governours and Aſſiſtants in ſuch Halls, (which are ever ſuppoſed to be men both of Reputation and Judgement) may have Power by your Commiſſion, Moderately to Compound with the *Cloathiers*, for ſuch Forfeitures and Penalties, as their Manufactures ſhall incur. Which manner of Puniſhment, though it be done in the ſame Form, wherein the Drapers oppreſſe them, yet will there (by Your MAJESTIES Grace and Mercy) appear to be a Power and kind of Chancery Reſiding in your Commiſſioners, who may duely extend the fruits of your intended Clemency, to ſuch as offend your Laws, by the caſualties incident to *Cloathing*; and not to puniſh them beyond their bearing, as do the Drapers, who Study, and Premeditate to make an Exorbitant and Unconſcionable advantage of a poor *Cloathiers* Ignorance or Overſight. And if this manner of Proceeding, by taking from the Penalties ſhall be Alleaged as prejudiciall to *Your* MAJESTIES Revenue, juſtly and legally ariſing from the Crimes of the *Cloathier*, you ſhall be made whole by that Bleſſing which attends the Merciful, commanded by one, and enjoyned by both *Your* glorified *Fathers*, which are in Heaven.

XXXIV. Finally, (under your Princely Pardon) and humbly to ſhew *Your* MAJESTY, That this propoſed Method for Curing and Regulating Defective *Cloathes*, is not grounded upon one ſingle Preſumption; here is ſubjoyned the Form and Model for preſerving the Cloathing of *Holland* from the groſſe Abuſes, which the like works in *England* carry with them: which way of curing the Defects may (if your moſt Judicious

Approbation ſhall, with the Grave Wiſdom of *Your* Honourable Councellors think meet) be ſo far followed in theſe your Dominions, as ſhall (with reſpect to the difference of Scituation) be found uſeful to *Your* MAJESTY and your People.

The Dutch Method, which is called Curing of their Cloathing, is as followeth.

FIrſt, *When a Cloath, Kerſey, or Bay is cut out of the Loom, it is preſently carryed to the Hall to be Viewed before it be Fulled, and the Defects are there diſcovered as to the VVeaving; There the piece receives a Seal, with the Owners Name, and the Day of the Month upon it. After it is Fulled and Dyed, it is brought again to the Hall to be reviewed, where the Defects in either of thoſe VVorks are puniſhed upon the reſpective VVorkman; the Dyer is to make his Colour perfect at his own charge, and the Mil-man muſt do likewiſe in his work. In all ſorts of Cloathing the VVork-man muſt firſt be approved before he be admitted to receive any VVork into his hands. For be he Maſter or VVork-man, who Works in the Piece, the Piece it ſelf muſt anſwer for the defects in it: And the abatement is ſignified upon the Seal to inform every ſubſequent Buyer. If the Seal be loſt, or counterfeited, the Owner of the Cloath is highly puniſhed by the State; For all their proceedings are Booked in the Hall.*

Secondly, *When a Say, Serge, or Perpetuano is cut out of the Loom, it is enjoyned to be brought to the Hall, where a Seale is in like manner put on, and then the Workman or Fuller may take it away to Milling. The Stuffe (as alſo the ſaid Cloath, Kerſey, or Bay) hath the Owners Name wrought*

wrought in a Corner of it, and when the Fuller returns ſuch a Piece of Work to the Hall to be viewed and meaſured, he conceals the Name of the Owner in a knot which he knits upon the corner where his mark is; inſomuch, as the Viewer cannot know whoſe the work is, though peradventure it may be his own: And during the time of this Viewing, no VVork-man, be he Maſter or Servant, may come into the place of Viewing, under a ſevere Penalty, unleſſe he be a Viewer, who alſo is kept in ignorance, as hath been ſaid.

Thirdly, The Cloath, Kerſey, or Bay, payes for every View, ſix pence, and the Stuff for the like payes two pence: there are alſo degrees in Viewers, inſomuch, as each piece of Work paſſeth four Views or Searches. And becauſe no piece of Work ſhall eſcape theſe Views or Searches; the Weaver, Fuller and Dyer, are each of them ſtrictly enjoyned to bring their Works to the Hall, there to be Viewed and Booked.

Fourthly, If a Cloath, or Stuff, in the Materials, or Workman-ſhip prove in the Viewers Judgement to be very Faulty, ſuch a piece of VVork is rent into ſo many pieces, as the Viewers ſhall think requiſite, and as the VVork merits: And every piece is ſealed, to the end, it diſgrace not the Trade in Merchandizing. And in caſe the VVork-man ſhall practice cunningly to draw the ſaid pieces together, he ſhall be firſt Disfranchiſed, and for the ſecond Fault Fined, and upon continuance, Baniſhed. The Dyers and Fullers are under the ſame Penalties, in caſe they tranſgreſſe the Rules enjoyned by the State or the Viewers; Nor dare either of them Mill or Dye ſuch a piece of Work without a Seal.

Fifthly, There are Halls in all Cloathing Towns

for theſe Surveys, where alſo are open Markets for all Buyers: Nevertheleſs, the Workmen are not confined to thoſe Markets, but they have Liberty to Sell their Wares (being Sealed) where they pleaſe.

Sixthly, *Every Maſter-Workman (approved to be ſo) Enters his Name and Shop-marke into the Hall-Book; and in caſe a Difference fall between two Cloathiers, through likeneſs of the Cloath, or otherwiſe, they reſort to the Hall to decide the Controverſy.*

Seventhly, *It is further to be Noted, that the Penalties are Aſſeſſed to be paid one third part by the Workmen, and two third parts by the Owner; which Puniſhments amounts to at leaſt four or five Shillings upon a Piece of Stuff, and proportionably upon a Cloath.*

Eightly, *Where Pitchy, or other foule Wool hath been wrought into a Cloath, ſo as the Mill can never Scour out the abuſe, ſuch a Cloath or Stuff hath been cut along the Liſt, and ſo hath been hanged up in the Hall, till it hath rotted, and fallen down.*

Ninethly, *No man is ſuffered to make in ſmall or great quantities for his own private Uſe, but every Piece of Worke, is enjoyned to be compleat in Aſſiſe, and brought to the Hall, as aboveſaid.*

Tenthly, *They allow great Sallaries, to ſuch as Survey for Forraign Wools, and eſpecially Engliſh, and Fullers-earth, which maintaines the chief of their Trade, and whereof their Magazines are ever Stored.*

XXXV. In that which hath been ſaid, and with all humility laid at Your *Royal Feet*, (under Correction alſo of the more judicious) there are three Principal parts of this Reformation, Maturely and Speedily to be Conſidered. The firſt of which may (if Your MAJESTY ſhall be ſo pleaſed) Informe you of the great decay, which within a few years, is fallen as much upon Domeſtick Trade, as the Forraign Merchandizing. The ſecond Relates to your Revenue, ariſing both from thoſe Penalties which reſt upon the *Manufactures* and from your *Cuſtomes*; both of them ſtrengthened with the Conſent of your *Laws*, and not in the leaſt Payment, Queſtioned by any of your *Loyal Subjects*. The third, and of Cheif Importancy, Reflects upon the Honour of your Crown and Dignity, boldly taken into the Cenſure of all Nations, with whom your Merchants hold Commerce.

XXXVI. The Damages which reſt upon the Trade and Merchandies are generally Viſible; for it is almoſt loſt, both at home and abroad: Nevertheleſſe, it is not beyond Recovery, if the due Execution of the Laws be juſtly and ſpeedily applied, which can no way be effected more Acceptably to your Subjects Joy, than when they ſhall be put in force by themſelves, which will eaſily be done, if all the Cloathing in *England* and *Ireland*, be Incorporated into one Conformity, for Regulation of the Manufactures; adjoyning therewith, a very ſtrict Reſtraint of the Materialls from Exportation, and a Prohibition of any Forraign *Cloath* to be ſold in any part of your *Dominions*. Nor need your MAJESTY trouble your *Parliament* in this Caſe; for, with a little Diligence at *Sea*, and the help of your Gracious *Proclamations*, to preſcribe Limits at Land, (as hath formerly been humbly Propoſed) this Work will ſpeedily gather Strength: for when your Laws are Inanimated by your *Proclamations*, they are as a Conjugal coupel, and

will as certainly beget a ſpeedy and continued Encreaſe of Trade, and your *Revenue*, as the Way and Form will be moſt Acceptable unto your Subjects; the Benefits of your Lawes being their Inheritance, and the Benedictions of your Fatherly Incorporations, and *Proclamations*, their Additional *Portions*.

XXXVII. The Loſſes to *Your* MAJESTIES Revenue, are great, becauſe it is double; one part lodged, and it is a large Wealth) in your Peoples Love, the other in their Purſes; and both ſhall be repaid to them, when *Your* MAJESTY ſhall be pleaſed to Re-communicate your Love with them, in your proper Care of Your own *Exchequer*; for a *Prince* cannot make a ſurer Seiſure of his *Subjects Affections*, then when they find his *Coffers* have no need of their *Purſes*. Aſſuredly *Your* MAJESTIES Revenue (in preſent at the loweſt Ebb) will ſoon fill every Corner of Your *Royal Receipt*, if the Current of Trade have its free Courſe, which is the Courſe of your Lawes, for they are the *High-way* wherein *your Subjects Travel* to their *Reſt*; and ſo often as *Your* MAJESTY ſhall be pleaſed to meet them in that *Way*, Your *Welcome* from them will prove a grateſull Repetition of thoſe dutifull *Harangues*, which *You* Received from them at *Your* Thrice happy Entrance.

XXXVIII. The third Prejudice (neareſt Approaching *your Royal Office*, & therefore being a Supream Invaſion) is the conſtant abuſe of *Your Royall Seal*; and it is very Requiſite that Your moſt Excellent MAJESTY do know the Truth hereof without *Palliation*; which is too *Perſpicious* by the undue Adminiſtration of Your *Subſidy-Seal*, commonly called the *Aulnagers Seal*; which therefore hath ſo often troubled Your good *People*; who (well knowing that Title intends Meaſuring) have long expected your Aulnager ſhould (by his Deputies

puties at leaſt) diſcharge that Duty, wherein there is a great miſtake; for, although your Aulnager ought not to affix his Seal, till the ſearch and meaſure-ſeals have firſt denoted the Faults in the ſaid Cloath; yet doth not his Office oblige him to the ſearching and meaſuring of the Draperies, but rather to ſeize them, if they be offered to his finall Seal, before thoſe of ſearch and meaſure be accompliſhed.

XXXIX. For, through very Antient Cuſtome *Your* Aulnager (who is one of the Keepers of *Your* Seal, and within whoſe Authority lodgeth no ſmall Chancery Communicable to all *Your* Allies and Friends) is the Honourable Perſon, who ſets *Your* Royal Teſte to all ſorts of Draperies, and according to their Merits, *Your* KINGLY DIGNITY is (as to the Cloathing) Eſteemed or Cenſured throughout the World: Yea, *Your* Religion alſo is brought within the Enquiry. For the *Turks* and *Jewes* expoſing and out-crying the Deceptions ſo familiarly practiced upon the *Engliſh* Cloathing, do not ſpare to tax that Religion, which (as they ſay) Tollerates Frauds, and yet Shrouds them under *Your* Royall Enſigne. Nor is *your* Aulnager (who is the moſt Illuſtrious Duke of *Richmond*) to be charged with theſe Offences; for they firſt got Head in thoſe Licentious times of Rebellion, and have ſince, (in the Minority of his Gracious Perſon) through the negligence of Officers and Deputies intruſted, gathered ſo much ſtrength in their criminal Cuſtoms, as the Cloathiers do dayly reſiſt the payment thereof, by means of a groundleſs diſtinction, which (as hath been ſaid) they make between old and new Draperies; but more Authentically by reaſon of the illegal diſperſing the ſaid Seals by the Deputy-Aulnagers, who (having for many years continued in that Erroneous way) have taught diverſe to deny, or at leaſt, much to diſpute the payment thereof; eſpecially ſince one in the late times (who called himſelf Chief Juſtice) gave his Opinion at a publick Aſſizes, that *your* moſt Antient Subſidy,

ſtrengthned with above a hundred *Statutes*, is a *Monopoly*; But ſo ſoon as your *Cloathing* ſhall enjoy *your* MAJESTIES Gracious Reformation, Theſe, and divers other Diſputes, will happily be ſoon caſt off.

XL. Thus moſt humbly imploring your *MAJESTIES* Gracious Pardon, for this ſimple Free-will-offering, which intends nothing of private Intereſt, but Principally to Advance your *Royal Revenue*, by improving your *Subjects Induſtries*; Theſe weak Endeavours have Adventured upon hopes of your *MAJESTIES Mercy*; and if any thing in them, ſhall attain thoſe ends which they purſue, the moſt humble Author hath Arrived at that Latitude of his Wiſhes, which his many years Meditations, Studies, and Deſignments have (not without much Travail, and ſome Expence) attempted; and if therein he ſhall Unfortunately miſcarry, as peradventure ſome malevolent and cenſorious Perſons may attempt, he ſhall nevertheleſs have the teſtimony and peace of an honeſt and clear Conſcience, for having Innocently endeavoured to ſerve a KING as Great as Good; and therein, for proſecuting that Work, which the Univerſality of Your Cloathiers do moſt Humbly ſupplicate to be Eſtabliſhed; having, on his Behalf, the ſame, witneſſed with ſome HUNDREDS of their Hands elſwhere Subſcribed.

Againſt

AGAINST THE CORRUPTIONS OF TIN & LEAD.

May it pleaſe Your Moſt Excellent Majeſty,

I. AMongſt the Glorious Kingdoms of the Earth, Your MAJESTIES Righteous Lot is fallen upon a goodly Inheritance; Territories not onely Flowing with *Milk* and *Hony*, but Abounding alſo with all things Neceſſary for Food, and Rayment, and Treaſures; ſo liberally extending the ſame to other Principallities and States, as without Communication thereof, they would remain under great Diſtreſſes for their moſt neceſſary Lively-hood, or elſe ſome of them muſt return to that Barbarous kind of Living, wherewith the Heathen people do content themſelves, which is *Hunger* and *Nakedneſs*, attended with neglect, or rather needleſneſs of *Government*, as are the *Indians*, of whom it is doubtfull to ſay, whether they, who enjoy the Paradice of the Earth, have, through *Rebellions* and *Inteſtine Broyles*, outliveed the uſe of *Laws*, *Societies*, *Commerce*, and *Correſpondencies* with the Civilized parts of the World; and now remain under the *Brutiſh* courſe of Feeding, and Converſing with *Beaſts*; or that they are as a new Born people, ſent to undergo the Miſeries of theſe latter Ages. And ſuch were once ſome Inhabitants of theſe your now Glorious Kingdoms, and ſuch as now are your *Subjects* here. May theſe Nations, with your *Prudent*, and moſt *Chriſtian Planting*, and *Government*, be ſoon and happily found to be; that is, The *Wonder*,

and *Terror* of the *World*: For Your *Religion*, and *Laws*, and *Strength* by *Land* and *Sea*, and *Merchandies*, and *Fatherly Diſtribution* of all the Bleſſings committed to your *Truſt*, do (in a manner) lay all the World beſides under Your MAJESTIES Diſpoſing.

II. It hath already been weakly ſhewed, how Your Sacred MAJESTY is Inveſted with the Pſalmiſts Admirations; *Your Hills are covered with Sheep, and your Vallies ſtand thick with Corne; Your Oakes exceed their Cedars; and your Navies ſearch the utmoſt Corners of the Earth and Seas*: Their Mountaines impregnate with *Silver* and *Gold*, their Rich and moſt Precious *Jewells* of the *Ocean* are chiefly enjoyed by your MAJESTY; and your *Induſtrious*, *Knowing*, and *Judicious Subjects*; yea, it is admirable to behold, how (through the Cunning and Artifice of your People) thoſe courſer Mines which your *Nothern Climates* afford, are Rarified and Improved, to the winning of their Treaſures; whoſe *Mettalls* ſo far exceed yours, as the world hath none beyond theirs; and therefore it is (under your MAJESTIES Gracious Pardon) very neceſſary that you be timely Informed, by what means the great and Valuable Trades of your *Tin* and *Lead* come to be corrupted, decayed, and in danger to be loſt; if with ſome probable Endeavours timely applied, the preſent profits be not providently attended, and the future Relapſe as carefully prevented, which will be found a work of Conſequence to your *Revenue*, and of *Benediction* to your Merchants.

III. In the late Ungoverned years, (when the unskilfull people had ſnacht the Reins of their own Licentious Liberties) no Prudent *Eſtabliſhed Order*, *Law*, or *Power*, could ſafely ſtand in their way, it being inconſiſtent with the ſpirit of Confuſion (which had poſſeſſed and carried them furiouſly to their own Ruine) to leave them the benefit of Wiſdom, and Providence. Before

thoſe unlucky dayes, there were no *Dominions* under more Bleſſed Government, than theſe in the Perſecuted Raign of your *MAJESTIES* ever Bleſſed Father; The Truth whereof, appeares by the admiration the people now have of thoſe loſt Bleſſings, and eſpecially that of Trade, which is become the more ſharp admonition upon them, becauſe they onely behold, and do not enjoy it as then they did, ſuch as ſcarce any body knew before that Revolution, and ſuch as at preſent, few or none can find, have onely made themſelves Rich, out of the Ruines of their King, their Country, and the Deſtruction of Trade, which ſhall be inſtanced more evidently upon your *Tin*; the *Propriety* and *Merchandies* whereof, is wholly in your MAJESTY.

IV. In *Cattle*, in *Corne*, in *Fiſh*, in *Foule*, &c. The goodneſs of Your *Monarchy* allows a coequal Propriety in your *Subjects*, with your *Royall Self*; but Mines are your *Regalia*, which made the *Wilde People*, who lately broke within the *Pale* of your *Poſſeſſions*, moſt of all to deſtroy them; and it proved *wicked*, as well as *malitious Councel*, in that *Lawyer*, who, in the *All-wounding Parliament* gave the untimely *Advice*, that the *Riches* under the *Earth*, ſhould go to them who *Poſſeſſed* (and that meerly by your *Princely Favour*) onely the *Earths Garment*, which is no more but the *Herbage*: But as this *Injuſtice* was then done, to win thoſe people to their *Rebellion*, whoſe *Loyalty* they could not other wayes ſhake; ſo thoſe people have ſoon found the ſadneſs of an *Illegitimate Claime* to anothers (yea, their *own Soveraigns*) *Inheritance*, and (having like *Monſtrous Children*, Born with *Teeth* in their *Heads*, bit off their *Mothers Nipples*) they quickly ſtarved themſelves: For by their prepoſterous courſes in recovering the *Tin*, whilſt it was in their ſhort *Poſſeſſion*, they have utterly loſt the *Mines*, which (through negligence) are ſo overflowed with *Water*, as many of them are very hazardous for *Recovery*.

V. How Rightly theſe *Mines* are your *Own*, is to be ſeen in an *Ingenious* and *Judicious Tract*, Written by that Venerable Judge, Sir *John Doderige*, whoſe *Learning*, *Judgement*, and *Sincerity*, made him *Famous*, and of great *Eſtimation* with your *Royal*, and moſt *Wiſe Grandfather*, KING JAMES of Bleſſed Memory; in that his Diſcourſe upon your *Principallity* of *Wales*, *Dukedome* of *Cornwell*, and *Earldome* of *Cheſter*; he hath declared your *Soveraign Right* to your *Dutchy* of *Cornwel*, and to all your *Revennes* therein, to be more immediately in your *Government* and *Diſpoſing*, than thoſe of *Wales*, your moſt *Royal Principallity*, as to your *Revenue*; For your MAJESTY entered upon your *Dutchy*, with all its *Rights* and *Immunities*, even with your firſt *Bleſſed Breath*, whereas in your *Principality* you were (for divers years) a *Minor*; in your *Dutchy*, Your MAJESTY, as a *Soveraign Duke*, might have Aſſembled *Parliaments* within that your *Dutchy*, by *Summons* of your own, called *Stannery Writs*, even in the Life-time of your *Royal Father*: and the *Statutes* you ſhall there Enact, (called *Stannery Laws*) ſhall be not onely of as full ſtrength and *Power*, in that your *Dutchy*, as thoſe of your *great Parliament* of *England*; but they are likewiſe uncontroulable thereby, inſomuch as neither thoſe *Laws*, nor any thing therein compriſed, relating to your *Stanneries*, are once named in that great and large *Volume* of your *Engliſh Lawes*, which hath been a great *Motive* (and part of that malitious advice given them, as before ſaid) to ſmoother, and (as far as they may) utterly to ſuppreſs thoſe Laws; ſo as it is difficult to find any of thoſe Antient *Books*, whereby your *Stanneries* may be *Reformed*, or *Recovered* to their *Priſtine Priviledges*, *Government* and *Wealth*.

VI. For diverſe Years, next before Your MAJESTIES Bleſſed Return into this *Mourning Kingdome*; the *Tin* (then gotten) was never brought to *Eſſay*, there

there being no *Officer* continued for that purpoſe, but each man drew his own *Tin*, to what *Weight*, or *Fineneſs*, or *Foulneſs* he pleaſed; nor was their any *Royal Mark Stamped* upon the *Slabbs*, as was conſtantly performed in the times of *Government*, according to the Antient *Law*; inſomuch, as the *London Pewterers*, and *Merchants*, did often *Petition* the unlawful *Aſſemblies* of thoſe times, (which called themſelves *Parliaments*) that they might have a Viſitation of that *Grievance*, and ſome ſpeedy Reformation of the inſufferable Abuſes and Corruptions practiſed upon the *Tin*, which was then brought to *London*, where the Droſs and Filth, made up in the *Slabbs*, being Purged, and the *Tin* Refined; ſuch as by that Purging wanted of the *Weight*, (as largely many of them did;) upon drawing their *Tin* into *Barrs* for *Merchandies*, they again did foully corrupt it with *Lead*; which *Cheat* was ſoon found out by the *Turks*, and being more abundantly practiced by the *Dutch*, the whole Infamy ever redounded upon the *Engliſh Merchants*; where again your MAJESTIES Dignity was abuſed, by all ſuch as carried Your *Royall Stamp* of *Eſſay*; for it alſo hath ever been a part of your *Royal Atchievement*, as hath been ſhewed about *Cloathing*.

VII. For this cauſe, the *Turks*, *Jewes*, and *Moors*, who uſe the *Tin* for Flouriſhing or Varniſhing their *Diſhes* of *Braſſe* and *Copper*; which, in that manner of uſe, was wont to endure upon them, two or three years; the ſame doth now vaniſh in ſix, or (at the moſt) in twelve Months, to the great enraging of thoſe people, who having diſcovered the *Cheate*, and the continuance of it, even to this day; have conſulted to caſt off that *Trade* of *Tin* with your *Engliſh Merchants*: For which purpoſe they have ſought in the Mountaines of *Barbary*, where they have, within a few years, digged, and found a much finer *Tin* of their own, than that which your MAJESTIES Mines will afford; but wanting men of Art, to temper it for Uſe and Ser-

vice, their new-diſcovered Mines remain as yet unprofitable. Of how much Concernment this may prove to your MAJESTIES Sole Merchandies of *Tin*, and the long continued *Trade*, which it held throughout the *World*, is eaſily diſcernable; for it is very little better in theſe dayes, than that *Black Tin* of *Germany*, which hitherto, in compariſon with yours, hath been held in contempt, and now growes in competition with it. In a *Word*, the neglect of Recovering your MAJESTIES Mines, and the uſual Abuſes in Purging and Refining the *Tin*, cauſeth a great danger and hazard to looſe that *Trade*; the *Propriety* whereof, hath in former times rendred your MAJESTY, near *Twenty* thouſand pounds *Annually*, by way of Preemption, over and beſides your conſtant Cuſtoms of Valuable Conſideration, as to that onely *Trade*; and for Forraign Merchandies, which by means thereof, are, and will be returned: And all this hazard reſts upon that ſlender thred of procuring *Workmen*, to temper the *Mettall* of *Barbary*; who, if they meet with Reſponſible Rewards, may be eaſily obtained from this Your Kingdome.

VIII. The Premiſes Conſidered, there remains no more immediate remedy for Recovery of that Trade, but that your MAJESTY be pleaſed to Re-aſſume your *Royal Propriety* in the *Soyle* and *Mines*: That you be pleaſed to enjoyne your Right Honourable *Warden* of your *Stanneries*, together with ſuch other *Commiſſioners*, as to your moſt Excellent MAJESTY ſhall ſeem meet, To Farm out your *Tin*, by way of Preemption (becauſe it is onely and wholly Yours;) That for the future, your Antient *Stannery-Laws* may be Recovered, Re-eſtabliſhed, and (wherein they ſhall be found deficient) may, by a Legal *Supplement* of them, be Regulated (and eſpecially as to Trade) by the Antient and Laudable courſe of *Stannery-Parliaments*: That ſo keeping the *Mettalls*, and manner

of

of getting them to the long approved *Order*, and *Method*; the Trade may recover the Antient Eſteem and Multiplication of the Commodity, into proportion with them who ſpend it.

IX. The *Lead* alſo of theſe your MAJESTIES Kingdoms is of a great Value, and richly Prized throughout the World; which likewiſe, by Reaſon of its great Uſe and general Reception, is become much corrupted, being filled with droſs and dirt; which upon the uſe is Diſcovered, ſo as the Purchaſers find not above half their expected Bargain; which makes them likewiſe fly out in *Re-criminations*, *Cenſures*, and *Condemnations*, as well upon the *Commodity*, as upon the *Merchants*, and the *Government* it ſelf. Therefore ſeeing your *Stannery Laws*, reach not to the Regulating theſe *Merchandies* of *Lead*; yet aſſuredly they alſo do ſtand in need of ſome Prudent and Judicious Plumbery Conſultations and Conſtitutions, for the future Regulation and Government thereof, leaſt an untimely loſſe do alſo befall that Trade, which is *Rich*, and hath long been *Famous*. It was not long before your MAJESTIES happy Return, that the *Growers*, and *Miners* of this *Mettal* were in Confuſion, and open complaint againſt each other, which was occaſioned by ſome of their Corruptions practiſed upon the *Merchandies*; and probably, as yet, it would profitably endure a Viſitation, and Reformation.

Nor are all the Riches, within the Bowels of Your Territories, compriſed in theſe two Mettalls, or the moſt uſefull additions of Iron and Steel; but ſome of the vaſt Mountains within Your Dominions, have already given an Earneſt penny for the reſt; that good and fine Silver, if not that richeſt of Soveraign Gold, is productive from the Veins, running from thoſe Hills and Mountains which are diſperſed through theſe Your Kingdoms; ſome of which have already been attempted with good ſucceſs. Of what hopes then thoſe vaſt and unpeopled Countries,

which are ſeated within more probable Climates, (and hitherto covered with Woods and Wilderneſſes) may prove, is (though not ſo much as hitherto attempted) of very pregnant expectations, becauſe the infancy of your ſeverall Colonies cannot, as yet, extend to ſuch profound ſearches. The hopes whereof will (with Your Gracious Pardon) more amply appear in the following, and laſt part of this moſt Humble preſumption.

FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF FISHING & PLANTATIONS.

Moſt Mercifull, and therefore moſt Chriſtian KING,

I. THis Third and Laſt part (which concerns the Pooreſt, and craves the Aſſiſtance of the Richeſt of Your Subjects) begs admiſſion to behold Your MAJESTY in Your moſt Heavenly Robe; For when the Eternal God (whom on Earth his Monarchs do chiefly Repreſent) become exceeding glorious in his Attire, with Majeſty and Honour; it confirmes our Faith, who are Your Vaſſals, that thoſe Sacred Veſtments are Your Mercy and Juſtice: One of them is the Light which decketh You as with a Garment; and the Heavens, of your Juſtice, (which is the other) You are pleaſed to extend as a Curtain or Mantle, and it embraceth your People on every ſide. To the fruition of which glorious Favour, this moſt humble Oblation offers all Degrees of your Subjects: And as You are the moſt Warrantable Figure, or Image of God, in the Robe of your Vertues; ſo he hath called, and made You perſonally Gods in your Providence and Government. *Parcere Subjectis*,

Subjectis, & debellare Superbos; Rewards and Puniſhments, Honour and Diſhonour, Life and Death are committed to *Your* onely Diſpenſation; which made *Your* People (both good and bad) when they had even devoured each other, to Unite their Prayers, and Purſes, and Perſons, as with the Cords of their ſtrongeſt Affections and Abilities, to draw *Your* Sacred MAJESTY to this *Your* Royall Throne of Juſtice and Mercy.

II. Before which *Throne*, even at your *Footſtoole*, Millions of your poorer people are caſt down, humbly Supplicating your *Fatherly*, and *Majeſtique* Care and Providence over them; who having long ſmarted by each others *Woundings*, and *Surfeited* in the *Drunkenneſs* of one anothers *Blood*; have no healing *Balme*, unleſs it come from Your MAJESTIES tender Proviſion, that we do not even all *Periſh*. For we find, that our *Canaan* of *Milk* and *Honey*, and all other Neceſſaries, will nevertheleſs not keep us all from *Starving*; unleſs Your *Wiſdom*, and *Pitty*, and *Clemency*, and *Charity*, do make a more equall diſtribution amongſt us; and an indifferent Recommunication from ſuch as have (God onely knows how) Engroſſed, and Hoarded up the *Wealth* of theſe your moſt opulent *Kingdoms*; and do, notwithſtanding, dayly behold their *Brethren* and *Siſters*, (that we ſay not their *Parents*, yet) the *Aged* and *Infants* to Periſh with *Hungar*, and *Thirſt*, and *Nakedneſs*, and *Sickneſs*, and *Impriſonment*.

III. The Beggard, and yet Beggarleſs *Dominions* of *France* and *Holland*, can boaſt their own, and Revile your peoples want of publique Charities, unjuſtly imputing to your *Subjects*, their unnaturall hardneſs of heart toward each other; when indeed, there is no fault, but neglect of Provident Diſtribution; for whilſt the *Muck* upon the Land lyes in heaps, and is not equally ſpread; the Earth, which would Reciprocally produce its Fruits and Profits to the *Induſtrious*, gives

Corn to one, and *Thiſtles* to another. In Reformation whereof, the provident *Charity* of your *Laws*, ſpeaks the *Piety* of your *Anceſtours*, and *Predeceſſours*; who have Inveſted all, even all the *Pariſhes*, in theſe your large *Kingdomes*, with means and power to provide, that there be no *mendicant Poor*, nor *unprofitable Vagrants*; and it is Evident, that through the many Fellow-feeling, and Devout *Gifts* of ſome *Pious Living*, and ſome *Dead*, and other *Dying Good Men*; the *Stocks*, and *Wealth*, of all or moſt of the *Pariſhes* in *Citties* and great *Towns*, would mercifully preſerve the *Lives*, and timely Relieve the ſtarving Condition of ſuch as unregardedly Dye, and yet might happily Live to benefit themſelves, their *Pariſhes*, and *Country*.

IV. How Bleſſed that Enlargement of *Your MAJESTIES* Dominions will prove, when the encreaſe growes from the *Exuberance* of theſe *Your* overpeopled *Kingdoms*; rather then by the Succeſs, even of a juſtifiable *War*, may not unhappily be inſtanced by the Regency of the *Emblematical Bees*; who, though they neither *Sow*, nor *Spin*, nor *Dig*, nor *Plough*, nor *Fight*, nor *Rob*; yet *Canaan* was not richer in Honey, nor King *Solomon* more numerous in People, than, through the onely Benediction of the Heavens, and delicious Flowers of the Earth, will in an inſtant, grow from one of their orderly ſwarmes: And the Compariſon holds very well with your MAJESTIES *Forraign Plantations*; which, in a very few years have, from a handfull, or ſmall ſwarm of your Induſtrious Subjects, grown able, not onely to defend themſelves with well-formed Armies, but do alſo Annually return a gratefull remuneration to their Native Country; together with Variety of Merchandies to their Principals or Patrons, which alſo render valuable Cuſtoms and Impoſts to your Royall Receipt. And if a looſe, irregular, and ungoverned Trade do yeild ſo great, ſo general, and ſo conſtant Profits, much more will be their Riches, when

Your

Your Sacred MAJESTY ſhall be pleaſed to take them into your Royal Protection, and more immediate Government.

V. Which, that your MAJESTY may be pleaſed to do, and by *Your Royal Preſident*, and *State Providence*, to ſhew your *Subjects* the readieſt way to Relieve and Enrich themſelves; will, by the ſhort view of the Materialls and Manner, how to accompliſh a Work (living with the World) be eaſily *Demonſtrated* to You and them: The Materialls are two, and thoſe are your People, and the means for their Maintenance; of both which you are abundantly provided, ſo as there onely wants a Skilful and Powerful *Authority*, to put their hopeful Deſign in *Practice* and *Action*. Firſt, for the People, there are thouſands in this your abounding and overcharged *Kingdome*, who live, diverſe of them, beyond their Wits, with ſtudying how to live; and ſeveral wayes they dye, (ſome of them unnaturally) for not knowing how to diſpoſe of their impoveriſhed and beggared Families. In all your *Countries* and *Towns* corporate, their *Priſons* are full of able *Perſonages*, who know no way to redeem themſelves from that *Captivity* which buries them alive, and and never have hopes of a *Jubilee*. The willingneſs of many evil-diſpoſed people, to be idle, draws them into wicked *Societies* and *Combinations*, which bring them to the *Gallows*; inſomuch, as no *Nation* looſeth ſo many that way, as this of *England*. In *Forraign* Countries, the Severe and Unpartial *Execution* of their *Penal Laws*, Frights a few, and invites a many to ſettle themſelves in courſes of *Livelyhood*; the provident, and juſt diſtribution of their Charitable *Levies*, gives them often occaſions, by diſpoſing of their poor, to ſhorten their Charge, and preſerve their *Purſes*: But as *Lamps* are choaked with too much *Oyle*, ſo the *Richeſt Countries* do moſt abound in, and ſooneſt Starve their *Poor*; and through their own Improvidence, as the *Libidinous*,

ſo the Idle youth do bring their Conſumptive Age to be *Nurſed* by an *Aſſe*.

VI. The *Jews*, though wandring (under their own pronounced *Curſe*) over the face of the *Earth*, do not yet ſuffer a mendicant perſon amongſt them; notwithſtanding, they have no *Mines*, nor formed *Commonwealth*, beſides their *Braines* and their *Hands*, to provide for, or to prevent *Caſualties*; *Your* MAJESTIES *Subjects*, who do indeed Inhabit, and Enjoy, the *Fertility* of the *Earth*, and are (too many of them) Ingenious enough to practiſe Miſcheivous Deſignes; do *Murther*, or eat each other *Alive*, rather than they will bequeath themſelves to a laudable Induſtry; and therefore, the *Magiſtracy* are not more required by the *Laws*, then they are enabled by the Means to provide, that their reſpective poor be Relieved, and Imployed; and (upon refuſal) to undergo the Corrections, by *Law*, ordained in ſuch caſes.

VII. For if the *Means*, and *Proviſions* for the *Poor*, were duely *Surveyed*, it will ſeeme Miraculous, and in many places be found to be much more than the intent of the donation doth enjoyne. But as a vaſt pond of Waters, though fed with innumerable Springs, doth not benefit the dry and thirſty grounds lying near it, unleſs with *Channells*, or Induſtrious hands, thoſe Waters be conveyed to them. So the Lake of your *Subjects Charities*, dayly *ſwelling* by the *Proviſions* of your *Laws*, by *Legacies* of Devout dying people, by *Pious* gifts of the living, by quarterly *Collections*, by Monthly *Communions*, &c. are for the moſt part caſt into a *Dead-Sea*, which returnes little or nothing to them, who Languiſh in *Starving Hopes*. In plain Termes, the Charitable Treaſures are Detained or Diverted; or if ſome few be Relieved, it is ſo done, as they remain ſtill poor, whilſt the *Pariſh Stocks* are dayly improved, and ſhared amongſt them who have Cuſtody thereof; or elſe profuſely ſpent

in

in FEASTINGS, though their Poor STARVE.

VIII. It is evident, by that which hath been ſhewed, and yet may be enlarged, That the proviſions for the *Poor* of this *Kingdome*, are in proportion, more than will be required, to Relieve and Preſerve their Lives, were the diſpoſing thereof digeſted into a right forme and manner; yea, ſo providently may they be Diſtributed, as the *Poor* of the *Land* may Enrich it and themſelves: More particularly, (with Your *MAJESTIES* Gracious Pardon) if You ſhall be pleaſed to appoint *Commiſſioners* of *Judgement*, and *Integrity*, in each *County* (proportionable to the Work) an unpartial *Survey* may ſoon be taken, as well of the *Poor*, as the *Stocks* remaining in each *Pariſh*, and in the hands of *Truſtees*; of which *Poor*, the *Superaged*, the *Infants* and the *Blind*, (who are the onely impotent) being ſettled for Livelyhood, according to their conditions; there will ſcarce be any other (how young or maimed ſoever) which may not be helpful towards their own maintenance; for thoſe before named, are the ſmalleſt part of the *Poor*. But when a man of an unprofitable Vocation, as a *Labourer*, a *Cobler*, or a *Broom-man*, &c. hath ten or twelve children, and nothing to maintain them but their Parents Induſtries; hence come Gripes and Groanes, and the ſeeds of Beggary, which overlaid their *Pariſhes* Reliefs; and though divers of them are often put out at their *Pariſhes Charge*, yet it is done with ſo ſmall allowance, as they ſoon returne again to burthen the ſame place.

IX. The younger *Brotherhood* of *England*, who are little better than *Penſioners* to the *Heirs* of the *Houſe*, for ſome ſmall *Portion* or *Annuity*; and the very numerous off-ſpring of the *Clergy*, who are no more but *Stipendaries*, during life, (to both of which, neither the *Laws* of *God*, nor of *Man*, nor of *Nature*, prohibits a juſt *Procreation*) muſt neceſſarily ſwell the numbers

of the diſtreſſed, to a Vaſt Charge for Relief. The Caſualties by Fire and Water, do, over and beſides their Legal helps by *Briefs*, ſtill multiply the *Poor*, whoſe cryes reach *Heaven*; whereas, through a provident *Survey* of the publique, and private, and caſual *poor*; together with the like enquiry into the *Stocks*, the conſtant *Levies*, and continuall *Gifts*, there will be found no ſuch diſproportion, but that the Treaſures in Banck, and the Curſory Supplies, will liberally Relieve and Support all Degrees of the Impoveriſhed, without imparing the *Stocks* of the *Pariſhes*.

X. There are two wayes for Receipt, and Employment for all ſorts of *poor*, who are able for any manner of Work; and happily they may be found of more worthy Deſign and Reputation, than thoſe which have been lately ordained and prepared, called *Workhouſes* or *Bridewells*, where none come but ſuch as are brought by Compulſion; nor are ſuch Houſes capable of any conſiderable Portion of ſuch as would work to live; whereas, theſe to be Propoſed, can never be Surcharged; and they are the *North-Sea Fiſhing*, and the *Southern Plantations*; neither of which can be amply ſet forth, or deſcribed in this ſhort, and therefore imperfect Relation. In promotion of the *Fiſhing*, it is humbly propoſed, That the Pariſh Stocks, throughly Surveyed, may (according to their Ability) build and ſet forth, with Victual, and men Neceſſary, a number of *Fiſhing Buſſes*, ſuch as may be ſufficient for an *Eſſay*, and invitation to others; and for ſuch people as will be thought neceſſary to catch and cure the *Fiſh*, they being (as the *Buſſes*) upon the Pariſh Accounts and Maintenance, it will be found to be no more than juſt and reaſonable, That, for the ſpace of five years, they ſtand bound by Indenture, to ſerve the reſpective Pariſhes which ſhall ſet them forth; to which Pariſhes, the profits of the ſaid Buſſes, and ſuch

Servants

Servants Labours ſhall return; and that, at the end of five years, ſuch *Apprentices* ſhall be *Enfranchiſed*, and have a competent Means to follow the ſaid *Fiſhing*, or otherwiſe Honeſtly to diſpoſe of themſelves to their own *Behoof*. Alſo for *Boyes*, and *Girles*, which are not of *Age*, nor *Strength* to go to *Sea*, or *Atchieve* any hard *Labour*; there will be Employment (after they arrive at the Age of Seven years) for them to *Weave*, and prepare *Nets* for the ſaid *Fiſhing*, and ſuch other utenſills as ſhall therefore be found needfull. Yea, herein Maimed Perſons, if they have their Hands and Eyes, may partly get their Livelyhood.

XI. For the Youth of both Sexes, which ſhall be found able to *Travell*, and have need to ask help from others; of which there are many more than of thoſe who publickly *Beg*, There may be the ſame *Rules* of *Obligation*, between them and their *Pariſhes*, as was formerly *Propoſed*; and, though of ſuch People, there will be found a Numerous quantity, yet the *Southern Plantations* will very well, and profitably imploy them all; and being Bound, as before ſaid, for the ſpace of five Years, (the profits of their *Labours* for that time going to the Pariſhes, whoſe Servants by *Indenture* they are) they ſhall, after the Expiration of their ſaid *Apprentiſhips*, both Young *Men* and *Maids*, be inveſted in *Land*, according to the Cuſtom of the *Country*; and with a Competency of other Meanes, to ſet themſelves forward in the World for their own *Intereſt*. The *Fruits* of all ſuch *Apprentices Labours*, (for the ſaid ſpace of their *Services*) being within the *Receipt* of ſuch *Officers* as the reſpective *Pariſhes* ſhall think fit to ſet over their ſeverall Colonies. But here ſeemes an Objection to be ſtarted of ſome difficulty to be Anſwered, which ſayes, *Your Laws allow not to Tranſport any of the Free-Born People of* England *againſt their own Con-*

 ſent;

ſem: which is ſoon Anſwered with another *Law*, likewiſe *Eſtabliſhed* and Strongly *Fortified* againſt *Begging*; which being ſtrictly Purſued according to the *Injunction* of the ſaid *Law*, there will few People be found *Averſe* to the former Propoſition: A profitable Preſident whereof being made, will prove, that a Flock of *Sheep* will follow any one that Leads.

XII. And becauſe the People may know the difference between the Sweetneſs of *Honeſt Induſtry*, and the prejudice which their *Birth* and *Education* to *Idleneſs* (*Fruges Conſumere*) brings. Your moſt Excellent MAJESTY may be pleaſed to take a ſhort View of the hopeful *Merchandies* which will Recompence your *Induſtrious Subjects* Labours. Firſt, for their *Kings* and *Countries Good*, They will in ſhort time much Enlarge *Shipping*, *Navigation*, and *Sea-men*; a work of Principal Conſequence to Your MAJESTIES, Your Kingdoms, and their own Safety. Secondly, for encreaſe of *Shipping*, with a Provident Regard to ſpare *Engliſh Oakes*, (whereof the late Brutiſh times were moſt improvidently waſteful;) There will be found in Your more *Northerly Territories* of *America*, very ſerviceable *Oaken Timber* for *Keels*, for *Ribs*, for *Knees*, and for *Hulls* of any *Ships* of bigneſs You ſhall think fitting to Build. There you ſhall have *Furrs* for *Maſts*, and *Deal*; *Pitch*, and *Tar*; *Hempe* for *Cordage*; and *Canvas* for *Sayle-Cloath*; *Iron* for all the uſes that require it, with good Aſſurance of *Copper* for *Ordnance*; and happily better *Mettalls*. All which being found within Your MAJESTIES own Dominions, will free you from that Trouble and Charge, which hath often been Occaſioned by ſuch Breaches of *Amity*, as are Incident to thoſe *Nothern Princes*, who (though your *Allies* and *Friends*) have often put your *Store-houſes* to ſeek for ſuch *Materialls*.

XIII Again,

XIII. Again, though all thoſe Proviſions ſo gotten, are principally for your *MAJESTIES* Acommodation; yet will they alſo convert to your Peoples behoof; for theirs the *Merchandies* will be: And for further *Encouragement*, theſe following Commodities, do in thoſe *Countries*, offer themſelves to the *Induſtrious*, *viz.* In all parts of *America*, there are *Drugs* for the *Preſervation* of *Health*; and are in late years, grown to great *Eſteem* amongſt Your *Doctors*, *Apothecaries*, and *Chyrurgions*. In the *Nothern Parts*, the *Planting* of *Hemp* for *Cordage*, for *Canvaſe* and *Poldavies*, will prove very profitable for *Rigging*, *Ground-Tackle*, and *Sayle-Cloath* for *Shipping*. The *Flax Planted* in *Virginia*, comes to a finer Improvement than that of *Holland*, &c. *New-found-Land* affords choice of *Merchandable Fiſhings*; and both that part, and *New-England*, abound in *Beavers*, in *Black-Fox*, and other *Furrs*: There are alſo ſeveral ſorts of *Mettalls*; and it hath been credibly Reported, That the *Rivers* upon the *South Part* of *Virginia*, do ſhew good hopes of *Fine-Gold* in their *Sands*: The *Tobacco* alſo of that *Country*, is at this time (with many) grown into Eſteem with that of *Spain*. Of *Corne* likewiſe there is plenty, which by *Induſtry* will daily Encreaſe; and with *Sheep*, the *Plantation* of *New-England* do ſo abound, as, if it be not timely and providently Regarded, the *Tranſportation of Wools* from thence will ſoon prove a great prejudice to the *Cloathing* in *Old-England*; which, much rather, would deſerve Encouragement to be Manufactured there. The *Plantation* alſo of the *Southern Parts* of *Virginia* (now called *Mary-Land*) is of great Hopes, and dayly Renders good Satiſfaction to the Right Honourable *Lord*, who hath Long and nobly ſupported it.

XIV. The next Plantation, yet more *Southerly*, is that of *Bermudas*, a healthfull and profitable *Iſland*, though ſtrangely *ſeparated* from other parts of the

World; as *Coſmographers* doubt, to allot it to the *African*, or *American* quarter; ſo Neighbourleſs it lies in the middle of the Ocean; which for want of Marks, other then that of Latitude, makes it too often become a ſtumbling-block to ſuch Shipping, as paſſing that way, and not expecting a Port before their time, do not ſeldome Wrack themſelves upon the Rocks which lie dangerouſly about it; by which unfortunate Accidents, the Inhabitants do indeed Enrich themſelves, though they account it not into the Bleſſings of their Country: For to their better comfort, there is much *Ambergreece* (a rich Commodity) gotten about that *Iſland*; excellent *Druggs* alſo, and diverſe very vendible *Merchandies*. As for the *Soile*, it is abundantly Fertile, maintaining plentifully ſeverally ſorts of *Cattle*, as well for *Service* as *Food*. *Corn* alſo is there in *plenty*; and for *Fruits*, few Countries exceed it; and none comes near the magnitude and pleaſantneſs of their *Orenges*: And (under Your Royall Pardon) it is Obſervable, That whatſoever growth of the Earth is, or ſhall be Tranſplanted from a *Northern*, to a more *Southerly* Climate, there will ſpeedily be found a great Improvement in the *bigneſſe* and *ſweetneſſe* of ſuch a tranſplanted *Fruit*: Witneſs the Wines of *Canary*, which growing from the *Grape* tranſplanted from the *Rhine* to thoſe *Iſlands*, do much encreaſe the richneſs and excellency of their *Wine*; yet hold they with them a perfect reliſh and remembrance of their Parent.

XV. To proceed yet more *Southerly*, to thoſe *Iſlands* lying within the *Tropiques*, (commonly called the *Caribe Iſlands*) which have now, for almoſt Fourty years, been planted with Your MAJESTIES Subjects. Thoſe *Iſlands* have proved ſo *fortunate* to the *Undertakers*, and ſo *profitable* to the *Merchants* trading that Way, as they have Invited more than a Hundred Thouſand of Your People to Inhabit thoſe *Territories*.

Thence

Thence come *Silks*, *Sugars*, *Spices*, *Indico*, *Cotten-Wools*, *Fruits delicious* and *cordial*; *Tobacco*, *Drugs*, *Rich Woods*, as well for Dying in *Colours*, as for cutting into *Cabbinets*, *Tables*, &c. Theſe, and many more advantageous *Commodities*, do offer themſelves to the *Induſtrious*, who not knowing better how to live, may partake with them who are grown abundantly Rich by their *own Endeavours* in theſe *Countries*. The Truth of which *Relations*, is more Warranted by the continual Flocking of Your *Subjects* to that *Infant-Colony* of *Jamaica*, as to a *New World*, or *Paradice*.

XVI. Almoſt within the memory of Man, ſuch people of this Your MAJESTIES Glorious *Kingdome*, as had run their Fortunes into Deſpair, would rather Expoſe themſelves to *Beggary*, than adventure ſo far as *Ireland* to recover a Conſumptive Eſtate; whereas in theſe dayes (through the ſweet Reliſh of Profit) diverſe Perſons of Quality and Wealth, with innumerable others your good Subjects, have adventured conſiderable *Portions* with younger Children, and Settled them into hopeful Families upon thoſe *Plantations*; of whom ſome have returned Home, ſo improved in *Wealth* and *Judgement*, as hath rendred them capable of Worthy *Offices* in the *Magiſtracy* of their *Country*, which Encourageth the humble Hopes of theſe *Propoſalls*: That when your MAJESTY ſhall be pleaſed Graciouſly to Appear in your *Princely Providence*, over your willing and Induſtrious *Subjects*, as well at home as abroad, The *Fruits* of their Endeavours will ſoon Magnify Your mighty *Wiſdom*, and *Puiſſance*, throughout the World; and make all Forraign Nations Admire the *Terreſtial Greatneſs* of Your MAJESTY, in *giving* ſo great Bleſſings to your People, as it draws your own moſt grateful Subjects at home into Amazement, for that *Latitude* of your *Forgiveneſs*, which no *Prince* on *Earth*, nor *King* in *Heaven* can *Parallel*; But he who was the *Heir* of all

Kingdoms, and his now Glorified *Vicegerent*, *Your Royal* and ever *Bleſſed Father*; who in his *Chriſt-like Remiſſion*, did Approach neareſt to the *Univerſal Mercy*; in which *Paths*, *Your* Sacred MAJESTY (the very *Idea* of ſo *Bleſſed a Father*) is beheld as the Wonder of the *World*.

XVII. And as the *Stars* (which are not only the *works* of *Gods Fingers*, but are his *Fingers* themſelves, pointing out his *Elections* amongſt the Sons of Men) have, to general Admiration and Amazement, made all, who lived at *Your Bleſſed Birth*, Witneſſes of that *Supernatural Act* and *Deed* of *bleſſed Prediction*, which then he *ſigned* in the *Heavens* by a *Star*: So he is, and may ſtill, and long be pleaſed hereby to Proclaim to all the People and Nations of the Earth, that *Your* moſt Sacred MAJESTY is not onely more within his Almighty and Continual *Protection*, than that you are the Favorite of *Heaven*; whom in all your matchleſs *Adventures* and *Tryalls*, he hath ſo born in his *Arms*, as you have not hurt *Your Royal Foot* againſt a *Stone*. And that he may, in the ſame, even Providence, carry you through the bleſſed Courſe of a long and happy *Life* and *Reign*, till he ſet you upon the *Heavenly Throne* of his Omnipotent Son, and your ever glorified Forefathers, is, and ever ſhall be the dayly, moſt humble, and ſincere Supplication of

Your Sacred Majeſties

Moſt Loyal, moſt Bounden, and

alwayes Obedient Subject

and Servant,

W. Smith.

Right Honourable, and moſt Illuſtrious Lords, &c.

IT *may pleaſe your good Lordſhips* (*under your moſt Noble Pardon*) *to accept this humble Offering, with its Innocent Errours*; *becauſe Your Honourable Board hath ever Indulged the induſtries of ſuch Preſentments* (*how Weak ſoever they be*) *as have endeavoured the Royal and Publique Welfare*; *whereof your Rolls and Records can ſhew your Lordſhips diverſe Preſidents. Nor doth the Humble Author deſpair of your Mercy, becauſe your are Honourable, as well as Judicious Cenſours, and the Subject ſuch as onely intends the Utility and Welfare of this His* MAJESTIES *moſt Flouriſhing Kingdom, and equally your Native Nation*: *And though theſe Worthleſs productions have taken many Hours from the Penmans Reſt, and other his Endeavours, to keep him and his poor Family alive in the late moſt Violent Perſecutions*; *and have entertained his Lucubrations with ſeveral tedious and exact Peruſals of the very many* Statutes, *provided for the various Conditions and Materials requiſite about* Cloathing, *and the other Recited* Merchandies. *Yet he preſumes to ſtamp no other Eſteem upon them, than that of the* Geeſe *awakening the* Senators *in the* Capitoll, *to regard their Own, and their Countries Safety and Preſervation. Which is the moſt truly devoted Prayer and Eſſay of*

Your Lordſhips

Moſt dutifull, and moſt

humble Servant,

W. Smith.